

Kiowa Tribe
Kiowa Indian Council (KIC)

[June 21, 2025]

Red Buffalo Hall, Carnegie, OK

Resolution Number: KIC-CY-0012-2025

Date Submitted: 05/07/2025 Date Posted: 05/22/2025 Date Approved:

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION TO MAKE ADDITIONS TO THE KIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES/ AMEND ARTICLE V, SECTION 5 OF THE KIOWA CONSTITUTION TO AUTHORIZE PARTICIPATION VIA LIVESTREAM OR VIDEO CONFERENCE IN ALL KIOWA INDIAN COUNCIL MEETINGS

WHEREAS: The KIC and its collective Tribal Members of the Kiowa Tribe in practicing its Constitutional right organized under the Constitution approved by Tribal Membership on April 17, 2017, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior, U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs on May 5, 2017; and

WHEREAS: In accordance with the requirements and powers granted under Article V - Kiowa Indian Council, Section 3 Reserved Powers. We, the [Kiowa] people of the Kiowa Tribe pursuant to our inherent sovereignty and under the guidance of Dàù:k'í (God), seek to improve, promote, and maintain our [Kiowa] language, culture, traditions, and the independence of our [Kiowa] people, to guarantee individual rights and freedom of religion, to preserve our right of self-government, to promote the social and economic welfare of our [Kiowa] members, and to utilize, increase, and protect our [Kiowa] tribal resources, maintain peace and order, and safeguard individual rights, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution; and

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 2(a) of the Kiowa Constitution establishes seven voting Districts, including District 7 (At-Large), thereby acknowledging the constitutional right of Kiowa tribal members residing both within and outside the eight-county range of the original Kiowa Reservation to participate in tribal governance; and

WHEREAS, many enrolled Kiowa members now reside within District 7; and

WHEREAS, Article V, Section 4 of the Kiowa Constitution mandates that an Annual Meeting of the Kiowa Indian Council (KIC) be held each year for the purpose of conducting official tribal business; and

WHEREAS, Article V, Section 5(a) of the Kiowa Constitution currently defines a quorum as one hundred fifty (150) Members of the Tribe aged eighteen (18) or older; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, the Annual and Special Council Meetings have repeatedly failed to achieve quorum due to low physical attendance, thereby delaying or preventing action on important tribal matters; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Kiowa Tribe to encourage and facilitate broader citizen participation in tribal governance to ensure democratic representation and effective decision-making; and

WHEREAS, the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Branches of the Kiowa Tribe have routinely utilized video conferencing platforms (such as Zoom, Teams, etc.) to conduct official business, including the administration of Oaths of Office, enactment of legislation, and hearings; and

WHEREAS, internet access is widespread and regularly used by Kiowa tribal members, especially those residing in District 7; and

WHEREAS, the Kiowa Tribe has enacted the *Kiowa Tribe Annual Budget Transparency Act of 2023*, which establishes standards for fiscal accountability and transparency in budgeting processes, and provides a framework under which new initiatives requiring financial support must be properly justified, budgeted, and implemented; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of remote participation via video conference for all Kiowa Indian Council meetings will require the appropriation and allocation of sufficient funds to the KIC Coordinator and the Election Commission for the effective delivery and administration of this function, in alignment with the requirements and intent of the *Kiowa Tribe Annual Budget Transparency Act of 2023*;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that only members presenting proof to the Council of being registered to vote in Kiowa Tribe elections may participate in Council proceedings; and

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the Kiowa Indian Council hereby approves and supports; the amendment of Article V, Section 5(a) of the Kiowa Constitution to read as follows:

“A quorum of at least one hundred fifty (150) Members of the Tribe who are registered voters and participating either in person or via a live streamed video conference must be achieved before a Council meeting may be commenced.”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, KIC members joining Council meetings via video conference may fully participate by speaking, introducing resolutions, and voting, and all votes cast via video conference shall be counted equally as if cast in person.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that sufficient funds shall appropriately and in tandem with the *Kiowa Tribe Annual Budget Transparency Act of 2023* be allocated within the Kiowa Tribe’s

annual budget to the Kiowa Indian Council for the planning, implementation, technology infrastructure, training, and administrative needs required to carry out video-based participation, as requested by this proposed resolution.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution, presented at a [Special] Meeting of the Kiowa Indian Council held on [June 21, 2025] and approved by majority vote shall be part of the rules of order and procedure of the KIC. Additionally, this presented resolution approved by a majority vote and that no such action of the Council shall become effective until the voters approve such matter in a subsequent election; shall, initiate the process to amend the Constitution by voting to call a Special Election to place before the voters the text of the proposed amendment along with the question of whether such proposed amendment should be placed before the voters in a subsequent Special Election to be held within one year and following the requirements of Article XIV of this Constitution.

(2025) KIOWA INDIAN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING OF THE KIOWA TRIBE

Chairperson

ATTEST: _____

Secretary,

Kiowa Indian Council

KIOWA INDIAN COUNCIL, RESOLUTION NO. ____:

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was duly voted upon by a 2025 Special Kiowa Indian Council of the Kiowa Tribe; was present at the duly called Special Kiowa Indian Council Meeting held on the ____ day of _____, 20____, and that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the affirmative vote: For: _____ Opposed: _____ Abstention: _____

Secretary, Kiowa Indian Council